[illegible]

FOR THE

Re[illegible] Mem[illegible]

OF THOSE

SOC[illegible]

IN

BO[illegible] CLUBS,

Laid down in [illegible] observ'd, will [illegible] the SOCIE[illegible] the Curious, [illegible] Friends and [illegible] these Proceed[illegible] to the Publick, [illegible] Humanity.

To which is added,

A Copy of [illegible] most regular [illegible] Remarks, [illegible] for Security [illegible] Money lent [illegible] for the [illegible] every [illegible]

BOX-CLUBS:

OR THE

SOCIETIES

OF THOSE

ANCIENT AND MODERN

FOR THE

A METHOD FOR THE Regular Management OF THOSE SOCIETIES, &c.

IT is the Opinion of ſeveral of His Majeſty's Juſtices of the Peace, that there never was a more advantageous Scheme drawn by induſtrious handicraft Tradeſmen, than by raiſing of thoſe Societies, call'd BOX-CLUBS, which not only keep ſome Hundreds in a Year from being burdenſome to the ſeveral Pariſhes within the Bills of Mortality, but give private Men a publick Spirit. By an Obſervation of the Calamities and Diſaſters which daily happen among ſuch a Community of Men,

it neceſſarily ſtirs them up to a Value for their Conſtitution, by ſeeing others in a Bed of Sickneſs, and gives them a View of Providence by a Support that is provided for the Induſtrious.

It was the Saying of Sir *Iſaac Tillard* to one, who complain'd of the Outrages that too often happen in theſe Societies, for want of regular Proceedings, *If theſe Societies were to be diſcouraged or put down, I fear the Pariſhes would too ſoon feel the unhappy Effects of it; and tho' mean Men, who have but mean Apprehenſions, now and then fall into light Diſorders, yet we had much better bear with thoſe, than a thouſand other more burthenſome Inconveniencies.*

Now, to prevent ſuch Extravagancies and Diſorders, as frequently happen for want of good Decorum, and a right Underſtanding, I have made it my Buſineſs for ſome Months paſt, to ſearch into the ſeveral Methods and different Managements of theſe Societies, and from the whole have drawn the following Obſervations, which I hope will be of Uſe and Advantage to the Publick.

It is the unhappy State of theſe Societies, that they are compoſed of Men of different Years, Conſtitutions and Tempers, old and young, wiſe and otherwiſe; ſo that when a

Propoſition is ſtarted by a Man, who is of a more penetrating Genius than the reſt, preſently ſome pragmatical Coxcomb, who is proud of hearing his own dear Self ſpeak, with a bellowing Noiſe, ſhall declaim againſt him, only out of a Spirit of Contradiction. This immediately puts the whole Room into Confuſion, ſo that another who has ſomething to advance for the Good of the Society, modeſtly holds his Tongue, that he may avoid the like ill Treatment; and thus through the contentious Spirit of ſome ignorant Blockhead, the chief Deſign of their coming together ſhall be diſappointed. But to put a ſtop to ſuch Proceedings, if an Article was made, that no one Member ſhould directly anſwer or oppoſe another, but give his Sentiments to the Stewards or Clerk nominated for that purpoſe, who ſhould with an audible Voice declare the Opinion of ſuch a Perſon, then the reſt would keep Silence, with more Eaſe by half, than if every one has Power to make a perſonal Objection: Beſides, when Liberty is given for ſuch an Objection to be made as aforeſaid, he that makes a Propoſal, ſhall at once have 20 or 30 Antagoniſts upon him; ſome out of a Diſlike to what he has ſaid, others out of private Picque to his Perſon; ſo that in this Caſe it is impoſſible to keep a Regularity, or to preſerve the leaſt Harmony.

But the Method which I propose, that the Person, who does not approve of any Proposition made, should give his Opinion to the Stewards or Clerk, who are to deliver it to the Society, would at once take off the Edge of Strife and Contention, and introduce things in a clear Light, to the entire Satisfaction of every peaceable Member. But here an Objection will start, and indeed something reasonable; which is this, *As one Member has the same Right to answer as another, suppose 20 or 30 Men should at once demand of the Stewards or Clerk to inform the Society of their different Opinions, what Method must be taken, and how shall one Man more than another make the Stewards or Clerk express his Sentiments?*

To which I answer. As every Member's Name, with the Time of his Entrance, is set down upon the Books, I cannot propose any thing more consistent with Reason, than that he should have Power to put the Question first, who stands first upon the Book; for the longer any one has been a Member, the better acquainted he should be with such Rules, as are proper to be laid down for the Good of the Society.

By this Method, when every Member of the Society is met together on a Quarterly

ly-meeting, for the Diſpatch of Buſineſs, Things will be carried on with ſo much Eaſe, and ſettled with ſo much Diſcretion, that Contumacy, Contradiction, and unneceſſary Wrangling, will be entirely baniſhed out of the Society; and inſtead thereof, ſuch Decency and Order eſtabliſhed, as will make theſe Societies as agreeable as they are profitable: Whereas on the contrary, the Diſturbance which daily happens for want of ſuch a Method, gives the greateſt Uneaſineſs to all quiet Men, and deters others from entring into theſe Communities.

The next thing I would premiſe, is the Advantages which accrue to theſe Societies, from their chuſing a Committee, to eaſe the Society of the Trouble of deciding petty Differences, that happen among private Members, and contriving ſuch Rules and Methods as may tend to their placing things on a right Baſis.

It is true, when a Committee is inveſted with Authority to make Articles, by which the Society is to be governed, as the Method is in ſome Societies, it is attended with innumerable Inconveniencies; for by this Rule, a ſelect Number of Men ſhall have it in their Power by acting independant of the reſt, to involve them in inextricable Labyrinths, and introduce private

De-

Designs and partial Proceedings. But the Method I shall propose will not only make a Committee safe, but serviceable.

In the first Place, If any Member shall refuse or neglect paying such Forfeits as fall upon him by the Breach of any Article, and shall have a reasonable Plea for so doing, it would be barbarous in the Society to exclude such a Member without a hearing, and it would be troublesome to the Society, if at a Quarterly-meeting, the whole Time must be taken up in the Decision of such Controversies; it is to be hoped, that there is not a Society in *London* of this Nature, but has a regard to Justice, as well as the Good of one another; and therefore it is reasonable, that no Member should be excluded till he has been examined, which Examination being referr'd to the Committee will make it more easy to the Society, who seldom have the Opportunity of meeting all together; when they do, they generally have Matters of greater Consequence before them.

Another Advantage which a Committee may bring to a Society, is by examining the Book, and having a faithful Account from the Stewards before others are chosen, or the *Monday* following; for otherwise the Society, by reposing too much Con-

Confidence in the Stewards and Clerk, may be fairly bamboozled without knowing any thing of the matter; a Crime which is too often practis'd in some Societies. And to make this Examination plain and easy, it would be necessary that the Chairman of the Committee should have an Account given him every first *Monday* in the Month (or when their Meeting is) of the Money which has been received in the foregoing Month, of the Forfeits that have been made, and of the Money which has been paid to sick Members; which Accounts being compared with the Books on a Quarterly-meeting, it will be impossible, that either the Stewards or Clerk, should have it in their Power to wrong the Society; provided at the same time, the Foreman of the Committee calls every Member that has been sick, and asks him what Money he has received, otherways the Stewards may reckon a Man two Weeks Sickness, who has received only for one; but this Method being taken, will clear all Doubts, and give a general Satisfaction to the Society. And to prevent any Member's coming into the Society, who is above Age, or has any Infirmity of Body, it is necessary, that no Member should be enter'd but on a Committee Night, with their Consent, and on a Quarterly-meeting be presented to the whole Society for their general Consent and Approbation: For

want of such a Rule as this, I have known a Society of two Years standing, have more old Men in it than one of twenty Years standing, who took such necessary Precautions; for where the Stewards and Clerk have Power to enter a Member of themselves, it is more easy to let in an old Friend, or lame Acquaintance, than it is to get rid of them. And it often happens, that if afterwards, such a Person is excepted against, through Age or Infirmity, yet he is considered as a good Companion, one that has been in some time, and such fair Pretences, till the Society feel the Effects of their Folly by the Charge it brings; and then such a one must either be barbarously turn'd out after he has been accepted, or be kept in, to drain and exhaust the Stock of the Society; which Inconveniency may be easily prevented, if the Committee examine into his Age and State of Health, and then present him to the Society before he is accepted as a Member. Thus far I look upon a Committee as highly serviceable to a Society; but would not advise the trusting them with the intire Management of all Things belonging to the Society, lest they should incroach upon their Privilege, and run the Society into more Disorders by their Authority, than would have otherways hapned, had there been no Committee at all to govern them; nor is it reasonable that a Committee

mittee ſhould ſit above one quarter, or half a Year at fartheſt; for it would not only be a Hardſhip to thoſe who are choſen for that Purpoſe, but it would raiſe Jealouſies in the Society, which would be avoided by a Change, eſpecially if they are taken as they ſtand entered upon the Book.

It is likewiſe neceſſary, that the Committee ſhould make a ſtrict Enquiry if the Clerk or Steward are juſt in the Payment of Fines and Forfeits, which ought to be paid without Favour or Affection, when any one has committed an Error in the Breach of any Article; for if once a Liberty is given and Indulgence granted to ſuch as are brought into a Fine or Forfeit, adieu to Order and Decorum; for a bad Example given does but raiſe an Expectation in another to receive the like Favour, which Practice will unavoidably breed Confuſion: and therefore thoſe Societies who would preſerve a Regularity muſt be careful above all Things to let no Forfeits be unpaid after quarterly Meetings, but exclude all ſuch Members as refuſe to pay upon Notice given, or the Box will not only ſuffer, but others continuing in the ſame Neglect will alledge the Precedent.

It is likewiſe neceſſary to preſerve the Harmony of a Society, that an Order ſhould

be made to expunge all private Quarrels and Animoſities, that no one be ſuffered to deſturb the Society with any Difference that may happen between him and another, without ſuch Difference being decided by the Society, ſhall have a tendency to the general Good; but not upon every little Quarrel which may occaſionlly happen, on Things which have no Regard to the Society.

Thus, if *Two of a Trade*, as the Proverb is, ſhould diſagree, on Matters relating to their Art or Science; to preſerve the Peace of the Society, a Method ſhould be taken that ſuch Diſputes ſhould not diſturb the Company; but if Things ariſe to ſuch a Height as to make the Company uneaſy, a Fine ſhould be laid on them as common Diſturbers, and the Stewards after commanding Peace ſhould either make them pay the Fine or repreſent the Caſe to the whole Body on a quarterly Meeting, that ſuch unruly Members may by a general Vote be excluded from the Society.

Indeed to maintain a Brotherly and Friendly Harmony, it is an Article with ſome Societies, *That if any one Member goes to law with another upon any Account whatſoever, without firſt acquainting the whole Body, he ſhall be excluded:* But this is a Hardſhip which may keep a Man out of a juſt

juſt Debt, if the Creditor can but inſinuate himſelf ſo far into the Affections of the Society as to get a Majority of Votes to forbid the Action: It's true, an Article in this Nature may be of Uſe to a Society, provided it is taken in a moderate Senſe, that is, to prevent vexatious Suits, ſuch as have no Regard to Juſtice but Power, when one Member out of Malice to another ſhall for a Trifle put him in the *Crown*, the *Commons*, or any other Court where Property is not ſo much contended for as Perogative, and where a poor Man for a haſty Word may be ruined to all Intents and Purpoſes: In ſuch a Caſe as this, for the Society to interfere, is but juſt and reaſonable; but in Caſes of Debt, the Law ſhould be open, for a Man to recover his own Property without the Interpoſition of a Society, who cannot poſſibly judge of the Caſe without an Infringment upon Law and Juſtice.

I ſhall in the next Place lay down ſome few Rules to be obſerv'd at the Burial of their Members, and then proceed to draw up a Copy of Articles, *&c.*

In the firſt Place, when Notice is given to the Stewards of the Death of any free Member, they are to acquaint the Clerk, who is to ſummon every one to the Burial; and here it is to be obſerv'd how vaſtly it would

would contribute to the Decency of the Solemnity, if every Member at his Entrance into a Society ſhould be oblig'd to buy a Pair of Mourning Gloves and Hatband to wear on theſe Occaſions: It's true, ſuch Things in themſelves are of but light Signification, but to ſee a hundred Men walk before the Corps thus equipt, would convey ſuch an Idea of Humanity in the Beholders, as would make every one for joyning in theſe Societies, which are thus decently ſet out to accompany a departed Member. It is now become the moſt common Way for the Society to walk before the Corps, and the Relations of the Deceaſed afterwards, and indeed it is not only proper, in order to diſtinguiſh them, but they being at the Expence of the Funeral, ſhould ſignalize themſelves in this Manner, that the Proceſſion may be obſerved with the more Advantage. It is a general Rule to fix a certain Sum of Money for the Burial, and it would be well, and for the Credit of the Society to ſee that the Widow or Friends of the Deceaſed lay out all the Money which is allowed for that Purpoſe; otherwiſe, if the Money is partly apply'd to other Uſes, as is but too frequently done, inſtead of Decency, it makes the Society appear ſcandalous: To prevent which, it would be proper, That the Society ſhould always

employ

employ one Undertaker that they can confide in, and order it ſo, that the Money ſhould be paid him by the Stewards, and that they ſhould inſpect into the Value of things provided; and it may be reaſonably thought that one Man having the entire Cuſtom, and the Stewards the Over-ſight, a Member may be buried handſomer with forty Shillings than with three Pounds, if the Money was given to the Relations; the Undertaker being afraid of diſobliging the Society, and the Society through Cuſtom being too well acquainted with the Value of Things to be impoſed on.

A COPY OF ARTICLES.

IMPRIMIS, It is agreed by every Member of this Society, that their Times of Meeting ſhall be from ſix to nine, every *Monday* Night, from *Michaelmas* to *Lady-Day*; and for the other half Year, from ſeven to ten; and that each Member then preſent, ſhall ſpend three Pence, and put two Pence into the Box, which is provided for that Purpoſe; which Money ſhall be converted to the Uſes hereafter mentioned.

II. THAT if any Member of this Society neglects paying the aforeſaid two Pence *per* Week, for more than ſix Weeks, he

he ſhall forfeit three Pence each Time; and if he farther neglects, till the Quarterly-night is paſs'd, he ſhall be excluded the Society, and from the Benefit of the Box.

III. That if any Perſon neglects clearing the Book, on the firſt *Monday* Night after Quarter-day, he ſhall pay one Shilling to the Box, for ſuch Neglect, or be excluded this Society, except it ſhall appear that ſuch Perſons were Sick, Lame, Blind or in Priſon.

IV. That there ſhall be a Box with three Locks, kept by the Landlord of the Houſe, where the Society meets; and that the Stewards ſhall each of them have the Charge of one Key, and the third to be kept by the Landlord, except when he is Steward, and then it is to be kept by the oldeſt Member.

V. That if any Member of this Society, who has been a Member for one whole Year, ſhall fall Sick, Lame or Blind, he ſhall receive ſeven Shillings from the Box, during ſuch Sickneſs, Lameneſs or Blindneſs; except it continue above ſix Months, after which, he is to have but one half of the ſaid Money: And at the Death of any free Member, there ſhall be forty Shillings paid out of the Box, for his Burial, and every Member ſhall be there, or forfeit one Shil-

ling, except he is hinder'd by Sickneſs, Lameneſs, Blindneſs, or being in Priſon; and that the Steward ſhall cauſe Notice to be given to each Member, of ſuch Burial, or forfeit ſix Pence for every Neglect; (if within the Bills of Mortality) and the Perſon who is employed to give Notice of the ſame, ſhall receive one Penny, from each Member of the Society.

VI. That no Perſon ſhall be admitted a Member of this Society, who is above the Age of 41 Years, or under 21, or that hath any Infirmity of Body; and if it ſhould be afterwards diſcover'd, that any Member had an Infirmity of Body upon him at the Time of his Entrance, he ſhall be excluded this Society, and have no Money return'd him out of the Box.

VII. That the Box ſhall not be broke, ſhared or parted, ſo long as any three Members or more will hold it a Society; and that if any Member ſhall make a Propoſition to break this Society, and ſhare the Money, he ſhall be finally excluded.

VIII. That all Things tending to the Good and Advantage of this Society, ſhall be carried by the Majority of Votes; and he that refuſeth to ſtand by ſuch Deciſion, ſhall be excluded.

IX. That if any Member of this Society ſhall ſwear, or uſe laſcivious Diſcourſes, or offer to fight, or quarrel, or play at any Game; being warned of the contrary by the Stewards, he ſhall forfeit two Pence to the Box for every ſuch Offence.

X. That if any Member of this Society, ſhall call for Drink or Tobacco, without Leave of the Stewards; he ſhall forfeit two Pence for every ſuch Offence.

XI. That every Member of this Society, ſhall take it by Turns to be Steward, as they ſtand enter'd upon the Book; he or they that refuſe to ſerve that Office, ſhall forfeit five Shillings to the Box; which Money ſhall be paid within the Term of ſeven Weeks, or ſuch Member to be excluded the Society; and that the Stewards ſhall be oblig'd to appear every Club-Night, or forfeit each of them three Pence to the Box, and three Pence to be ſpent, unleſs they are hinder'd by Sickneſs, Lameneſs, &c.

XII. That if any Perſon refuſeth to keep Silence, after it has been three Times demanded by the Stewards; he ſhall forfeit two Pence to the Box.

XIII. That the Stewards ſhall ſee the Reckoning clear'd at the Time appointed.

XIV. That every Member ſhall pay one Shilling to the Stewards, towards the Feaſt, or be excluded.

XV. That if any Member ſhall call the Stewards, by any other Name than that of Mr. Steward, during Club-hours; he ſhall forfeit two Pence to the Box, or be excluded.

XVI. That if any Member of this Society, ſhall get his Sickneſs, Lameneſs, &c. by wilfully fighting, or by the foul Diſeaſe; he ſhall not be entituled to the Benefit of the Box, for ſuch Sickneſs, Lameneſs, &c. But notwithſtanding if ſuch a Member ſhould chance to dye, forty Shillings ſhall be allowed for his Burial.

XVII. That if any Member ſhall reflect on another, for his having received the Benefit of the Box, he ſhall on full Proof thereof, forfeit two Shillings and ſix Pence, or be excluded from this Society.

XVIII. That no Member of this Society ſhall have any Benefit of the Box, who is in a Capacity of working at his Trade; and

and if it can be prov'd he did work at his Trade, or follow any other Buſineſs, whereby he made an Advantage by his Labour, during the Time of his receiving the Benefit of the Box; he ſhall be finally excluded this Society, and the Benefit thereof.

XIX. That if any Member removes from his Habitation, he ſhall acquaint the Stewards, and give Directions to the Place unto which he is moved, within fourteen Days, or forfeit one Shilling to the Box.

XX. That the Stewards ſhall carry the Money to every ſick Member, the ſame Day it becomes due; and about the middle of the Week the ſick Member ſhall be viſited by one or both of the Stewards, who ſhall give their Report to the Society, on the *Monday* Night following; and in Caſe of Default, they ſhall forfeit ſix Pence each to the Box.

XXI. That every Member of this Society ſhall meet on the ſeventh Night after every quarterly Meeting, and ſpend three Pence, and he that does not come or ſend, ſhall forfeit three Pence; and if another pays it for him, it ſhall not be repaid again.

XXII.

XXII. THAT the Landlord ſhall have a Fire in the Club-room, during Club-hours, from *Michaelmas* to *Lady-Day*, with Pipes and Tobacco in the ſaid Club-room, at ſix of the Clock, or forfeit ſix Pence.

XXIII. THAT if any Member come into the Club-room diſguiſed in Drink, or offer to lay any Wager, he ſhall forfeit two Pence to the Box, or be excluded.

XXIV. THAT at the Death of any Member of this Society, each ſurviving Member ſhall pay to the Widow or Nominee one Shilling, which Money ſhall be paid out of the Box, the firſt *Monday* after the Burial (beſides the forty Shillings mentioned in the fifth Article) and he that doth not pay his Dividend, as a Part thereof, within one Month, ſhall be excluded: And if the Money ſo collected does not amount to three Pound, it ſhall be made up out of the Box.

XXV. THAT if any Member of this Society belongeth to another, he ſhall either quit that, or be excluded this, and from the Benefit of the Box.

XXVI.

XXVI. That each Member ſhall pay one Penny *per* Quarter, (and no more) to the Clark, for looking after the Books; and he that refuſeth to pay, ſhall be excluded.

XXVII. That if any Member of this Society does not keep up to the Rules of this Society, laid down in the foregoing Orders, he ſhall be excluded, without having any Money returned from the Box. And if any ſuch Perſon out of a contentious Spirit, ſhall arreſt the Stewards or any other Members, on ſuch an Occaſion, the Suit ſhall be proſecuted at the Expence of this Society.

XXVIII. That if any Debate ſhall ariſe in this Society which no Article herein can fully determine, or direct, it ſhall finally be determined by the Majority of Votes on a quarterly Meeting, when only one Perſon ſhall ſpeak at a Time, or forfeit Six-pence.

XXIX. That upon the Death of any Member's Wife, every Member ſhall pay one Shilling towards her Burial, which Money ſhall be paid out of the Box; and every Member ſhall be oblig'd to pay his Dividend in one Month, or be excluded this

this Society. If the Money ſo rais'd, does not amount to forty Shillings, it ſhall be made up out of the Box; and if the Money ſo rais'd, amount to more, the overplus ſhall be paid into the Box.

XXX. THAT if any Member of this Society ſhall be preſs'd into his Majeſty's Service, and ſhall return in three Years in perfect Health, he ſhall be received as before; but if he goes voluntarily, he ſhall be excluded.

XXXI. THAT the Stewards ſhall not have Power to diſburſt any Sum of Money without Leave of the Society, otherwiſe than what is paid to ſick Members, on the Forfeit of five Shillings; and that at a Feaſt the Steward ſhall produce a Bill of Charges, to the Satisfaction of the Society, or forfeit ten Shillings, beſides making good all Deficiencies.

XXXII. THAT if either of the Stewards or Clerk ſhall defraud the Society by taking Money out of the Box, or by wilfully impoſing on any Member with regard to their Payment on the Book, he or they ſo offending ſhall be wholly excluded, and be liable to an Arreſt at the Expence of the Society.

XXXIII.

XXXIV. THAT the Stewards ſhall not have Power to open the Box but on a *Monday* Night, on the Forfeiture of five Shillings.

XXXV. THAT if the Stewards, or either of them ſhall fall ſick, the next ſucceeding Stewards ſhall officiate for them, till their Recovery, or be excluded.

XXXVI. THAT on a Quarterly-meeting every Member ſhall be at the Book to make up his Accounts, within an Hour after the Time mention'd in the Articles, or forfeit Six-pence.

XXXVII. THAT each Member at his coming into the Room on a Quarterly-night, ſhall pay the Expences for the Night to the Stewards, upon which a Ticket ſhall be delivered them, that they may call for Drink, *&c.* without giving Trouble to the Stewards.

XXXVIII. THAT the Box ſhall not be moved to another Houſe, without the whole Society being ſummoned together, and then it ſhall not be moved without a Majority of Votes.

XXXIX. THAT at a Feaſt, if any Member of this Society ſhall bring his Wife or Acquaintance, and ſhall partake of ſuch Proviſion as was provided or ſhould have been propvided for the Society; he, or they ſo offending ſhall forfeit five Shillings.

GOD Save KING *GEORGE*.

A Copy of Articles after this Nature being drawn up, and put in a Frame in the Room where the Society meets, it is of abſolute Neceſſity that a Form of Agreement ſhould be made on a Sheet of Stamp-paper, binding every one to the Performance of theſe or ſuch Articles as ſhall be agreed on; to which Form every Member ſhould ſubſcribe his Name.

The Form as followeth.

WE whoſe Names are hereunto ſubſcrib'd, do hereby bind ourſelves to be obedient to the Articles made for the Preſervation of Friendſhip, and the Security of the Box belonging to the Society; all which Articles we will maintain and ſee executed in full Force, as we conſent by theſe

these Presents to forfeit all the Privileges belonging to the said Society: Witness our Hands,

THESE Provisions being made, it is necessary that Security should be given by the Landlord of the House for the Money which shall be collected for the Use of the Society; in order to which, I have drawn up the following Preamble, which being wrote on Stamp-paper and signed by Men of Credit, the Money may remain in the Box, and the Society be secure till the Sum shall so far increase as to make it worth while to put it out to Interest.

KNOW all Men by these Presents, that we A, B, C, D, E, F, &c. *of the Parish of* &c. *and County of* &c. *do hold ourselves firmly bounden to the Society now kept at the House of* A, B, *in the Parish of* &c. *in the sum of one hundred Pounds, of good and lawful Money of* Great Britain, *to be paid upon Demand by us, or either of us, jointly or separately, if from this Day of* 172 *and in the Year of our Sovereign Lord* George *King* &c. *the said Society shall be any Ways cheated or defrauded of the Money belonging to the aforesaid Society, whilst the said Money is in Charge and Custody of the Landlord Mr.* A, B, *of the*

Parish of &c. provided at the same Time that the Money of which the said Society shall be defrauded or cheated amount to the Sum of an hundred Pound; otherwise we bind ourselves by these Obligations only to pay the sum which shall appear to be lost by Proof of the Book and the Depositions of the Stewards; which Money being lost, stole away, or any otherways confiscated before the Day of 172 &c. whilst it is in the Charge of &c. we our Heirs Executors and Administrators or Assigns will well and truly pay, or cause the said Money to be paid to the Society upon Demand, as witness our Hands and Seals, &c.

THE Condition of this Obligation is such, that if *A B* of the Parish of and County of does not well and truly keep the Money committed to his Charge, for the Use of the Society now residing at his House in the Parish of then the aforesaid *A B, C D, E F*, their Heirs, Executors, Administrators and Assigns, &c. shall by these Presents make good all Deficiencies to the Value of one hundred Pounds of good and lawful Money of *Great Britain*; but if the aforesaid *A B*, his Heirs, Executors, Administrators or Assigns, shall produce the Money committed to his Charge by the Stew-

Stewards of the Society on the Day of then this Bond and Obligation to be void and of none Effect.

WHAT remains is that I give such Directions as shall tend to the Security of the Society, if any Sum of Money is let out of the Box for Intereſt.

IN this Caſe the Preamble of a common Bond is ſufficient, only inſtead of making the Bond payable to a ſingle Perſon, it is moſt proper to make it over to ſix, eight, or ten of the Society, leaving out the Term *to their Heirs, Executors, Adminiſtrators* &c. and inſtead thereof adding *or to ſuch Perſons as the Majority of Members belonging to the aforeſaid Society ſhall appoint to receive the ſame*, which Bond ſhould be kept in the Hands of an indifferent Perſon to prevent Controverſies.

FINIS.